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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/612,440	07/07/2000	Timothy Merrick Long	169.1763	7048

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EXAMINER

BLACKMAN, ANTHONY J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2676

DATE MAILED: 10/22/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

HG

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/612,440	LONG, TIMOTHY MERRICK	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	ANTHONY J BLACKMAN	2676	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 July 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by MARGULIS, US Patent Number 6,456,340.

3. Consider claim 1. MARGULIS discloses a method of combining digital image meta-data by storing self-describing attribute tags with one or more meta-data elements (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 17, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45), each such attribute describing the action to be taken with this meta-data element and a similarly identified meta-data element from a second digital-image when the two images are combined (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,

column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45).

4. Consider claim 2. MARGULIS discloses a method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the self describing attribute tags include a tag which indicates that the meta-data elements in question should be discarded when the two images are combined (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45).

5. Consider claim 3. MARGULIS discloses a method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the self describing attribute tags include a tag which indicates that the meta-data elements in question should both be kept when the two images are combined (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45).

6. Consider claim 4. MARGULIS discloses the method as claimed in claim, 1, wherein the self describing attribute tags include a tag which indicates that the meta-data elements in question should be kept as a single element when their values are the same, else discarded, when the two images are combined (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45).

7. Consider claim 5. MARGULIS discloses the method as claimed in claim 1, wherein in the event a said image has associated therewith a said meta-data element having no self describing attribute tag (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45), then the method comprises the step of supplying a default self describing attribute tag to said meta-data element which has no self describing attribute tag (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45).

8. Consider claim 6. MARGULIS discloses a method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the default attribute tag includes a tag which indicates that the meta-data elements in question should be kept as a single element when their values are the same, else discarded, when the images are combined (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45).

9. Consider claim 7. MARGULIS discloses a method of updating meta-data of an digital image by storing self describing attribute tags with one or more meta-data elements (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45), each such attribute describing the action to be taken with this meta-data element when the digital image is transformed (figure 4,

element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45).

10. Consider claim 8. MARGULIS discloses a method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the self describing attribute tags include a tag which indicates that the meta-data elements in question should be discarded when the image is transformed (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45).

11. Consider claim 9. MARGULIS discloses a method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the self describing attribute tags include a tag which indicates that the meta-data element in question should be kept when the image is transformed (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45).

12. Consider claim 10. MARGULIS discloses a method as claimed in claim 8, wherein in the event said image has associated therewith a said meta-data element having no attribute tag (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45), then the method comprises the step of supplying a default attribute tag to said meta-data element (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11,

lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45).

13. Consider claim 11. MARGULIS discloses a method of combining a plurality of images, wherein one or more of said Plurality of images each have associated therewith meta-data comprising at least one meta-data element having at least one attribute tag which describes an action to be taken with said meta-data element when said plurality of images are combined (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45), the method comprising the steps of: reading said at least one attribute to identify said action (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45); and combining the meta-data elements of the plurality of images in accordance with said action (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45).

14. Consider claim 12. MARGULIS discloses a method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the at least one attribute tag includes a tag which indicates that the meta-data elements in question should be discarded when the images are combined (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45).

15. Consider claim 13. MARGULIS discloses a method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the at least one attribute tag includes a tag which indicates that the meta-data elements in question should both be kept when the images are combined (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45).

16. Consider claim 14. MARGULIS discloses a method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the at least one attribute tags includes a tag which indicates that the meta-data elements in question should be kept as a single element when their values are the same (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45), else discarded, when the images are combined (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45).

17. Consider claim 15. MARGULIS discloses a method as claimed in claim 10, wherein in the associated therewith a said meta-data element having no attribute tag (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45), then the method comprises the step of supplying a default attribute tag to said meta-data element which has no attribute tag (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18,

column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45).

18. Consider claim 16. MARGULIS discloses a method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the default attribute tag includes a tag *which* indicates that the meta-data elements in question should be kept as a single element when their values are the same (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45), else discarded, when the images are combined (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45),.

19. Consider claim 17. MARGULIS discloses a method of transforming an image, wherein said image has associated therewith meta-data comprising at least one meta-data element having at least one attribute tag which describes an action to be taken with said meta-data element when said image is transformed, the method comprising the steps of reading said at least one attribute to identify said action (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45); and updating the at least one meta-data element of the image in accordance with said action (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45),

20. Consider claim 18. MARGULIS discloses a method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the at least one attribute tag includes a tag which indicates that the meta-data elements in question should be discarded when the image is transformed (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45),

21. Consider claim 19. MARGULIS discloses a method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the at least one attribute tag includes a tag which indicates that the meta-data element in question should be kept when the image is transformed (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45),

22. Consider claim 20. MARGULIS discloses a method as claimed in claim 17, wherein in the event said image has associated therewith a said -meta-data element having no attribute tag (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45), then the method comprises the step of: supplying a default attribute tag to said meta-data element (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45),

23. Consider claim 21. MARGULIS discloses an apparatus for combining digital image meta-data by storing self-describing attribute tags with one or more meta-data elements (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45), each such attribute describing the action to be taken with this meta-data element and a similarly identified meta-data element from a second digital-image when the two images are combined (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45),

24. Consider claim 22. MARGULIS discloses an apparatus for updating meta-data of an digital image by storing self describing attribute tags with one or more meta-data elements (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45), each such attribute describing the action to be taken with this meta-data element when the digital image is transformed (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45),

25. Consider claim 23. MARGULIS discloses an apparatus for combining a plurality of images, wherein one or more of said plurality of images each have associated therewith meta-data comprising at least one meta-data element having at least one

attribute tag which describes an action to be taken with said meta-data element when said plurality of images are combined (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45),, the apparatus comprising: means for reading said at least one attribute to identify said action (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45),; and means for combining the meta-data elements of the plurality of images in accordance with said action (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45),

26. Consider claim 24. MARGULIS discloses an apparatus for transforming an image, wherein said image has associated therewith meta-data comprising at least one meta-data element having at least one attribute tag which describes an action to be taken with said meta-data element when said image is transformed (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45), the apparatus comprising means for reading said at least one attribute to identify said action (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45); and means for updating the at

least one meta-data element of the image in accordance with said action (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45),

27. Consider claim 25. MARGULIS discloses a computer readable medium including a computer program for combining digital image meta-data by storing self-describing attribute tags with one or more meta-data elements (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45), each such attribute describing the action to be taken with this meta-data element and a similarly identified meta-data element from a second digital-image when the two images are combined (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45),

28. Consider claim 26. MARGULIS discloses a computer readable medium including a computer program for updating meta data of an digital image by storing self describing attribute tags with one or more meta data elements (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45), each such attribute describing the action to be taken with this meta-data element when the digital image is transformed (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404,

figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45),

29. Consider claim 27. MARGULIS discloses a computer readable medium including a computer program for combining a plurality of images (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45), wherein one or more of said plurality of images each have associated therewith meta-data comprising at least one meta-data element having at least one attribute tag which describes an action to be taken with said meta-data element when said plurality of images are combined (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45),, the computer program comprising: code for reading said at least one attribute to identify said action (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45); and code for combining the meta-data elements of the plurality of images in accordance with said action (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45),

30. Consider claim 28. MARGULIS discloses a computer readable medium including a computer program for transforming an image (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element

404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45), wherein said image has associated therewith meta-data comprising at least one meta-data element having at least one attribute tag which describes an action to be taken with said meta-data element when said image is transformed (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45),, the computer program comprising: code *for reading* said at least one attribute to identify said action (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45),; and code *for updating* the at least one meta-data element of the image in accordance with said action (figure 4, element 404, figure 5, element 404, figure 11, element 1108, column 5, lines 18-22,, column 11, lines 2-18, column 13, lines 8-14, column 16, line 38 to column 7, line 3 and column 26, lines 26-45),.

Conclusion

31. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. REED et al, US Patent Number 6,249,600 disclose manipulation of an object or scene through an occluded, unscanned and imaged (scanned) tag (abstract, lines 1-15, column 2, lines 26-37, column 6, lines 19-40, column 7, lines 5-25). SPAULDING et al, US Patent Number, 6,301,393 teach digital imaging, tags and meta-data (column 17, lines 19-44). BOLLMAN et al, US Patent Number 6,141,012

teach hierarchial nesting related to digital compositing (figures 2, 10-14, and 17).
RHOADS, US Patent Number 6,427,020 teach tagging and meta-data related to
watermarking (Appendix, column 11, paragraph 2).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the
examiner should be directed to ANTHONY J BLACKMAN whose telephone number is
703-305-0833. The examiner can normally be reached on FLEX SCHEDULE.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's
supervisor, MATTHEW BELLA can be reached on 703-308-6829. The fax phone
numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-
872-9314 for regular communications and 703-746-5731 for After Final
communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or
proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-
3900.



ANTHONY J BLACKMAN
Examiner
Art Unit 2676

October 18, 2002